

COLOMBIA  
Caño Cristales



LATIN  
AMERICAN  
STUDIES  
2017

## MEET HISTORY PROFESSOR JUAN COBO

*Has your interest for history been something that you've been passionate since you were young? When and how did your interest for history develop?*

Like many people, I was raised in a family of storytellers, hearing stories of the past – real and magical – from my grandparents, great aunts, parents, and cousins. I suppose this instilled in me a great curiosity about people and their experiences. I was lucky to grow up between two very different places, Colombia and England, and was fascinated by the differences between them and the people that I met there. When I was older, I was fortunate to have inspiring history teachers at school, who guided me and encouraged me to pursue the study of history academically. In Colombia I first learned of the history of Latin America, indigenous people, and Spanish colonialism; in England of medieval and early modern Europe and Christianity. By the time I began to study history at university, I was interested in the connections between them, and all my research has been concerned with understanding different aspects of the way that the Old World and the



New, and their inhabitants, interacted in the early modern period – focusing on questions of religion, race, language, and law.

*Do you have any ideas on how to motivate today's generation to take an interest in history?*

We all have a responsibility to make our work speak to other people beyond academia. The problem, I think, is not to do with the public and least of all with younger people. I believe people are no less motivated to learn or receptive to new

ideas and perspectives than they have been in the past. The issue is communication. Our work might fascinate us and be terribly important, but it is often inaccessible to a broader public – whether because it is written solely for an academic audience, locked behind closed-access paywalls or published in expensive editions, or simply not publicised effectively. Another issue is that of language: for a host of reasons, much of our work is produced in English and rarely translated, and we often have little incentive to do otherwise. I am, however, very optimistic about the potential of new technologies to make our work more broadly accessible. Around the world open access initiatives are increasingly transforming academic publishing; ever larger numbers of scholars are also availing themselves of tools such as blogging platforms and social media to speak directly to more people than ever before; and many digital humanities projects are not only making research available to a broader public, often including pedagogical resources, but are inviting the people beyond academia to participate in the production of historical knowledge.

***Any outside interests?***

Beyond my own research and teaching, an important part of my work as an historian is preserving historical sources and making them available beyond academia. A few years ago, some colleagues and I set up a non-profit foundation, Neogranadina ([www.neogranadina.org](http://www.neogranadina.org)) devoted to digitising the holdings of endangered archives in Colombia. Drawing on the amazing

work of different online communities of programmers, enthusiasts, and scholars we developed very efficient low-cost scanners that have allowed us to carry out large-scale digitisation projects in archives even in remote rural areas. With the support of international partners and local universities we digitise thousands of documents around Colombia every day, and with the help of a broad range of volunteers – from students and fellow academics to amateur historians and the general public – we’re slowly cataloguing them and making them available online for anyone in the world to read for free, alongside pedagogical tools to help them do so. We’re also talking to colleagues elsewhere in Latin America and beyond to bring these technologies to other places, and to the Colombian government to participate in the creation of a digital archive of local and regional newspapers to contribute to the implementation of the recent peace agreement. In my spare time, I enjoy cooking, reading fiction, and exploring this wonderful place that my wife and I are now privileged to call home.

## Interested in taking a course with Professor Juan Cobo? Think no more!

Take Professor Juan Cobo's class next quarter, Spring 2017:

HIST150CL: Comparative Colonialism and Language

All colonial projects had to face the problem of linguistic differences, but the ways in which they did so were far from uniform and are very revealing of their different ambitions, ideological foundations, and local circumstances. Explores the history of colonialism comparatively from the perspective of language, from the early modern period to the twentieth century, in Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia.

<http://www.history.ucsb.edu/courses/comparative-colonialism-and-language/>

## ON - CAMPUS EVENTS

REGISTER:  
[bit.ly/wespeak2017](http://bit.ly/wespeak2017)  
#WeSpeakWeLearn

SYMPOSIUM ON  
**WE SPEAK,  
WE LEARN.**  
NATIVE/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES  
EDUCATING THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

8:15 A.M. – 5 P.M. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017  
McCUNE CONFERENCE ROOM, 6th FLOOR HSSB, UC SANTA BARBARA

Please join the **American Indian & Indigenous Collective (AIIC)** and keynote speakers **Dr. Joely Proudfit** and **Dr. Scott Manning Stevens** for interactive discussions about the unique opportunities and challenges Native American/Indigenous learners encounter in the 21st century.

**Joely Proudfit, Ph.D.**, is a descendant of the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in political science with emphasis in public policy and American Indian studies from Northern Arizona University. She is chair and professor of American Indian Studies and the director of the California Indian Culture & Sovereignty Center at the CSU San

Marcos. In 2016, she was appointed by President Barack Obama to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education.

**Scott Manning Stevens, Ph.D.**, is a citizen of the Akwesasne Mohawk nation. He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in English from Harvard University. He is an associate professor of Native American Studies and of English and is the director of the Native American Studies Program at Syracuse University. He is the former director of the Newberry Library's D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies.

The symposium is free of charge, however participants are asked to register in advance. The symposium also will be streamed live. Participants may join in at any time by going to <https://ucsb.zoom.us/my/heykenj>. Join us socially throughout the day by using the hashtag #WeSpeakWeLearn!

For more information: [ucsbaaic@gmail.com](mailto:ucsbaaic@gmail.com)

HOSTED BY: American Indian & Indigenous Collective Research Focus Group  
SPONSORED BY: Interdisciplinary Humanities Center | Graduate Student Association | Department of Theater and Dance  
Department of English | Department of Linguistics | Public History Program | Department of Political Science  
Department of Chicano Studies | Department of Global Studies | Department of History | Department of Anthropology  
UCSB College of Letters and Sciences









SYMPOSIUM ON  
WE SPEAK,  
WE LEARN.  
NATIVE/INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES  
EDUCATING THE 21<sup>ST</sup>  
CENTURY  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY  
24, 2017  
8:15 A.M. – 5 P.M.  
AT McCune  
Conference Room  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor HSSB



# FRIDAY MATINEE FILM SCREENING:

SPONSORED BY WOMEN'S  
CENTER ADMIN COORDINATORS

## TOUGH GUISE

2/24

This film makes a powerful case that male violence, misogyny, and homophobia are inextricably linked to how we define manhood as a culture. It gives special attention to how American media have glamorized increasingly regressive and violent masculine ideals in the face of mounting social and economic threats to traditional white male heterosexual authority.

Women's center

Conference  
Room  
1-3pm



Pizza and  
refreshments  
provided!

# AT THE WOMEN'S CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM

February 24, 2017

1-3 pm

This film makes a powerful case that male violence, misogyny, and homophobia are inextricably linked to how we define manhood as a culture. It gives special attention to how American media have glamorized increasingly regressive and violent masculine ideals in the face of mounting social and economic threats to traditional white male heterosexual authority.

# JOIN UCSB's CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH CLUB

Every Thursday @ 7 pm

# Want to Speak Spanish?

- Planning to go abroad?
- Studied abroad and want to keep practicing?
- Want to build confidence in the language?
- Interested in getting involved in a student-run club?
- Just love meeting cool new people?

# AMIGOS IS FOR YOU!

## UCSB's Conversational Spanish Club


Pizza & fun conversations in IV!

Every Thursday | 7pm | Giovanni's

Just look for the sombrero




Find "Amigos de UCSB" on Facebook!


 University of California, Santa Barbara  
 Department of Spanish and Portuguese

The Center for Portuguese Studies invites...


**LUSO-BRAZILIAN LITERATURE THROUGH FILM**



**February 22 :: March 1 :: March 8**

Discussion led by  
 Renata Pires de Souza (Brasil)  
 Marta Mendes Braga (Portugal)

Wed. 5pm  
 Phelps Hall  
 Room 3206

**\* With English subtitles & popcorn** 

For more information, please contact Renata (rpires@spanport.ucsb.edu) or Marta (mbraga@spanport.ucsb.edu).

**FILM NIGHT**  
**Phelps Hall**  
**Room 3206 @ 5 pm**  
 Discussion led by:  
**Renata Pires de Souza**  
 and **Marta Mendes Braga**

**REAL & REEL LATINX LIVES MATTER!**

Presented by  
 Professor Frederick Aldama

Professor Frederick Aldama will unzip his brain, offering a multimedia extravaganza of all things Latinx in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This includes an exploration of contemporary mainstream film, TV, music, animation, comic books, video games that simplifies and straightjackets Latinx identity and experience. He contrasts this with today's abundance of Latinx created cultural phenomena that vitally complicates and enriches our understanding of Latinx identity and experience. Along the way, Aldama presents a dynamic model for understanding Latinx subjects as active transformers of the world we live in today.



Arts & Humanities Distinguished Professor  
 Department of English  
 The Ohio State University

Aldama is the founder of the LASER Mentor Program (Latino and Latin American Space for Enrichment and Research), a hub for students and scholars engaged in expanding the presence of Latinos in higher education. His areas of expertise are 20<sup>th</sup>-century British and American literature, critical theory, film studies, narrative theory, comic books, video games, and Latino Studies. He is the author, co-author, and editor of over 22 books, including *Your Brain on Latino Comics*, *Formal Matters in Contemporary Latino Poetry*, and *Long Stories Cut Short: Fictions from the Borderlands*.

**February 22, 2017**  
**3:30-5:00 P.M.**  
**South Hall 2635**



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**February 22, 2017**  
**3:30 – 5:00 pm**  
**South Hall 2635**



**LYDIA**

**WHEN:** February 21, 2017 @ 8 pm

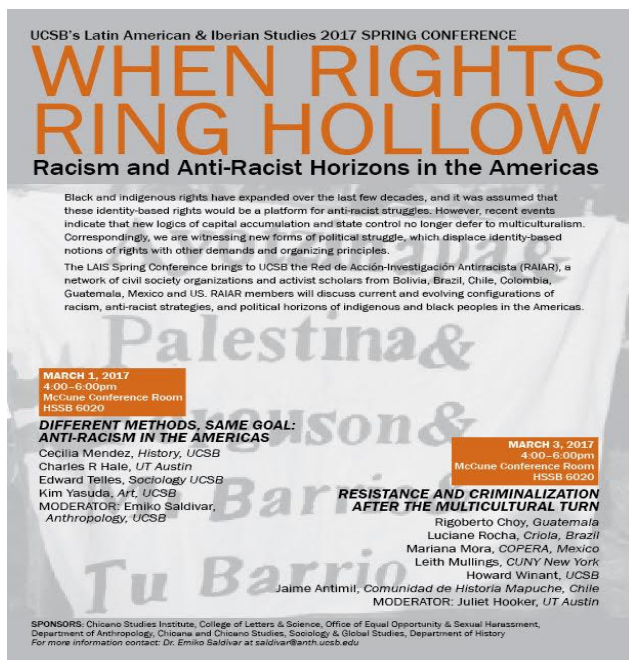
February 26, 2017 @ 8 pm

February 25, 2017 @ 2 pm

February 26, 2017 @ 2 pm

**WHERE:** Performing Arts Theater

Secrets. We all have them. What happens when those secrets are wrenchingly revealed and everything boils to the surface? Octavio Solis' beautiful play unfolds in 1970's El Paso, Texas during the Vietnam War when the arrival of a mysterious outsider, Lydia, brings family secrets to light. This poetic and highly imaginative play about loss, forbidden love, the pain of memory and identity, and unfulfilled hopes and dreams poses the question: when secrets are exposed, can life ever be the same?



**WHEN RIGHTS RING HOLLOW**

Racism and Anti-Racist Horizons in the Americas

Black and indigenous rights have expanded over the last few decades, and it was assumed that these identity-based rights would be a platform for anti-racist struggles. However, recent events indicate that new logs of capital accumulation and state control no longer defer to multiculturalism. Correspondingly, we are witnessing new forms of political struggle, which displace identity-based notions of rights with other demands and organizing principles.

The LAIS Spring Conference brings to UCSB the Red de Accion-Investigacion Antirracista (RAIAR), a network of civil society organizations and activist scholars from Boliva, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico and US. RAIAR members will discuss current and evolving configurations of racism, anti-racist strategies, and political horizons of indigenous and black peoples in the Americas.

**WHEN: March 1st & March 3rd**  
 4-6 pm at The McCune Conference Room  
 HSSB 6020  
 For more info. please email:  
 saldivar@anth.ucsb.edu



## OFF - CAMPUS EVENTS



### Printed Matter presents the fifth annual L.A. Art Book Fair

**WHEN:** Feb 23 – Feb 26 @ 6-9 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA  
152 North Central Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90012

Printed Matter's L.A. Art Book Fair is a unique event for artists' books, art catalogs, monographs, periodicals, and zines presented by over 300 international presses, booksellers, antiquarians, artists, and independent publishers. The event is free and open to the public Friday through Sunday, with a ticketed opening night preview on Thursday, February 23, from 6pm to 9pm featuring special musical performances. Preview tickets are \$10 (available online or at the door) and include a limited-edition print by Mike Mills.



Since the early 1970s, Self Help Graphics has been a massively important force in L.A.'s Chicano art scene. To continue the community's legacy of printmaking into the next generation, the print shop and community art center is hosting the **Inaugural Chicana/o Latina/o Printmaking Summit**. "At Self Help Graphics & Art," organizers say, "we understand and value the role of the Master Printer in creating a trusting and nurturing environment that can develop important relationships between the printer and artists." The seven-day event features daily workshops with master printmakers, roundtables on topics like diversity and inclusion, and an exhibit of prints produced by Self Help's master printmakers. All of the events are free with registration, but priority will be given to printmakers if the programs fill up.

**“Zoot Suit”**



Tickets to "Zoot Suit" are available till **March 26, 2017** by calling (213) 628-2772 or online at [www.CenterTheatreGroup.org](http://www.CenterTheatreGroup.org),

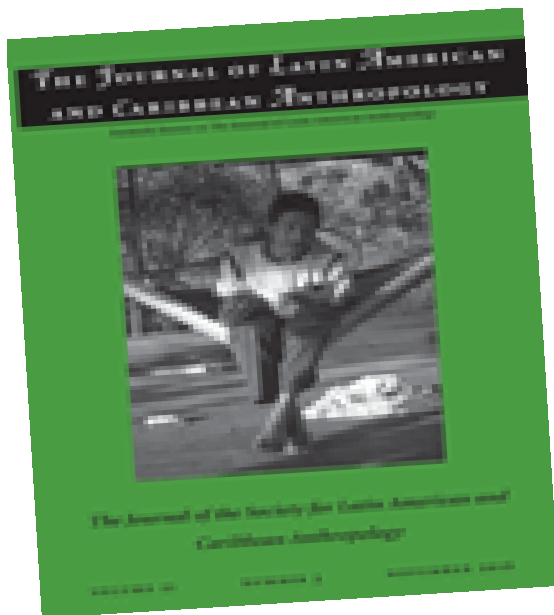
Nearly 40 years after its world premiere, original creator Luis Valdez will once again fill the Taper's stage with a company of 25 actors, singers and dancers weaving fact and fiction together as they portray the events surrounding the infamous 1942 Sleepy Lagoon murder in Los Angeles. Filled with heart, sly wit and the infectious songs of Lalo Guerrero, "Zoot Suit" remains an urgent portrayal of the clash between generations in a Chicano family, the rifts between cultures in America and how racism and injustice can haunt a city and a society.

**LAIS ACADEMIC RESEARCH JOURNALS**

**The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology**

Volume 21, Issue 3

November 2016



<http://anthrosource.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/issue/10.1111/jlca.2016.21.issue-3/>

“Paper, Power, and Procedure: Reflections on Amazonian Appropriations of Bureaucracy and Documents”

Oliver Allard, Harry Walker

“Documents as Displaced Voice: Writing among Amazonian Urarina”

Harry Walker

“Opening a Path with Papers: Yonomami Health Agents and Their Use of Medical Documents”

Johanna Goncalves Martín

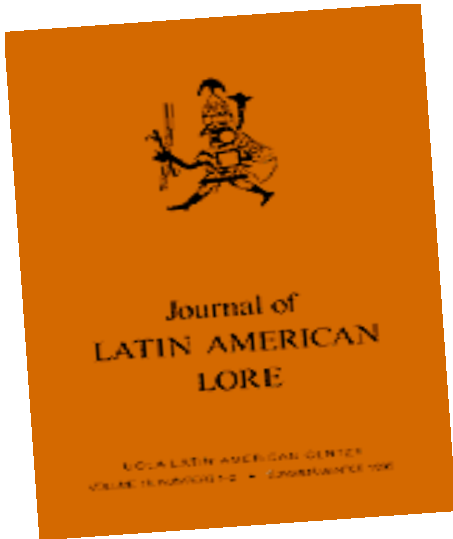
“Maneuvering for Paper: Physical and Social Experiences of Bureaucracy in Venezuelan Amazonia”

Amy Penfield

“The To and Fro of Documents: Vying for Recognition in Enawene-nawe Dealings with Brazilian State”

Chloe Nahum-Claudel





## Journal of LATIN AMERICAN LORE

### VOLUME 22, No. 2

“Integrating Politics and Cosmology: The History of Radial Pyramids at Quiriguá”

Matthew Looper

“The Cult of the Dead and the Subversion of State Justice in Moxos, Lowland Bolivia”

Akira Saito

“In the Book of Matthew Thus Spake John: Tzotzil Discourse”

Robert M. Laughlin

“La Virgen, las enfermedades y los espíritus: Pluralismo médico y romerías indígenas a El Quinche, Ecuador”

Bernhard Wörrle

“Tell Me, Maiden: The Maya Adaptation of a European Riddle Sequence”

Amy George-Hirons

## ¿Qué es Neogranadina?



**Neogranadina.org**

Somos una fundación sin ánimo de lucro que busca utilizar nuevas tecnologías para proteger, rescatar y promover el patrimonio histórico, artístico y cultural de América Latina. Actualmente nos concentramos en digitalizar el patrimonio de manuscritos y libros antiguos de archivos e instituciones no estatales de la República de Colombia. En esta página podrás encontrar más información acerca de nuestra organización y nuestras actividades, y vincularte.

Visit [neogranadina.org](http://neogranadina.org) to view Colombian archives that have been digitized by this non-profit organization created by Professor Juan Cobo and his colleagues. Through the means of technology they've been able to protect, save and promote historic, artistic, and cultural antique books and archives.

## Current Latin American News

# Venezuelan food crisis reflected in skipped meals and weight loss

By Osmary Hernandez, Mariano Castillo and Deborah Bloom, CNN

Updated 1:41 PM ET, Tue February 21, 2017



People line up to buy basic food and household items outside a supermarket in Caracas, on September 28, 2016.

**(CNN)** A mother contemplates how she does her food shopping amid shortages and high inflation in Venezuela: Whatever is cheapest in the season is what her children eat, substituting one thing for another and in much smaller portions than before.

"What I have at home is enough to give them a plain arepa, and it's very little for each one," the woman, Grecia Gonzalez, told CNN en Español, referring to the traditional white corn cakes. "And for me, I don't care about going without eating. As a mother you're always thinking about feeding (your children)."

New data from an annual national survey by three of Venezuela's major universities and other research groups has found that Gonzalez's experience is becoming more common in the oil-rich South American country.



## Venezuela's deepening crisis (Opinion)

Families are substituting usual foodstuffs for cheaper and more available alternatives, the National Survey of Living Condition, known by its Spanish initials ENCOVI, found. Meat and chicken, which in 2015 were the fourth- and fifth-most purchased grocery products, respectively, were overtaken in 2016 by vegetables and tubers.

And like Gonzalez and her children, the survey found more Venezuelans are skipping meals and the percentage of malnourished is growing.

The number of survey respondents who reported eating two or fewer meals per day nearly tripled from the previous year's survey, rising from 11.3% in 2015 to 32.5% in 2016. Based on the data, the authors of the study estimate that some 9.6 million Venezuelans eat two or fewer daily meals.

## **Shortage in basic goods**

In addition to food staples, there have been shortages on everything from basic goods such as toilet paper to healthcare supplies. Venezuela can't pay to import goods because its government is desperately strapped for cash after years of mismanagement of its funds, heavy spending on poorly run government programs, and lack of investment on its oil fields. The numbers from the survey provide context, or at least a snapshot, of a humanitarian crisis in Venezuela.

"Sometimes I get full, but sometimes not," Gonzalez's 10-year-old daughter, who has been diagnosed with moderate malnutrition, said. "Rice with salad, sometimes... and in the morning we eat rice cakes or a small arepa. It's been awhile since I've eaten meat, chicken."



## **The four-legged victims of Venezuela's economic crisis**

The effects of the shortages and inflation appear to be taking a physical toll, too.



According to the survey, 72.7% of respondents said they lost weight in the past year, dropping an average of 19 pounds (8.7 kg). The average weight loss was slightly higher among those living in extreme poverty.

### **Maduro increases food vouchers**

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, who in the past has denied that there is a crisis in his country, on Sunday announced an increase of 42% for the food vouchers some Venezuelan workers receive.

In 2015, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization recognized Venezuela for its efforts to combat hunger. The country's vice president at the time, in accepting the honor, said more than 95% of Venezuelans were eating three meals per day. That year's ENCOVI survey estimated that figure to be closer to 89%.

Besides food, the ENCOVI survey studied a wide range of issues, including education, public safety, unemployment and poverty.

*CNN's Patrick Gillespie contributed to this report.*

## Blast near Bogota bullring injures 31, many of them police, reports say

By **Elliott C. McLaughlin**, CNN

Updated 4:45 PM ET, Sun February 19, 2017



Colombian police investigate an explosion near a bullring in Bogota on Sunday.

**(CNN)** An explosion Sunday near the Santamaria bullfighting ring in downtown Bogota, Colombia, injured at least 31 people, many of them policemen, according to reports.

Two of the 31 were seriously injured, Mayor Enrique Peñalosa tweeted. At least 10 police officers were hurt, according to the Bogota police press office.

A dozen suspects were taken into custody, the press office said.

"The terrorists won't intimidate us. And we're going to do everything necessary to capture them," Peñalosa said in another tweet.

Los terroristas no nos van a intimidar. Y vamos a hacer todo lo que sea necesario para capturarlos  
9:37 AM - 19 Feb 2017

Footage aired by Medellin-based Cable Noticias showed dozens of police in fluorescent yellow jackets converging at the base of a highrise near the plaza, blocking off streets and directing pedestrians away from the scene.

The stadium is located in the La Macarena neighborhood of the Colombian capital.

It was not clear who was behind Sunday's blast.

Bullfighting has long been a contentious issue in Colombia. On one side are Colombians who say the events are art, part of the country's culture and tradition. Opponents call it animal abuse, and say they want the city-owned bullring to be converted into a space for cultural and educational events.

In 2012, then-Bogota Mayor Gustavo Petro essentially banned bullfighting by suspending the city's contract with the Bullfighting Corporation of Bogota. But the constitutional court overturned Petro's decision, siding with those who say bullfighting is a form of artistic expression.

Bullfights are held on Sundays in January and February in Colombia.

Bogota held its first bullfight in four years in January, and hundreds of protesters converged on the Santamaria bullring, with various media reporting the demonstrators hurled obscenities, spit at attendees and called them "torturers." Riot police had to intervene.

Peñalosa has said he opposes bullfighting but is bound by the constitutional court's decision to allow it. After the explosion, he tweeted that the area was secure and it was safe to attend the event.

According to Humane Society International, about 250,000 bulls are killed during these events annually. Colombia is one of eight countries -- joining Spain, France, Portugal, Mexico, Venezuela, Peru and Ecuador -- where bullfighting is legal, the organization reports.

A change.org petition aimed at persuading the constitutional court to overturn its ruling and end bullfighting in Colombia garnered almost 52,000 signatures.

*CNN's Alban Zamora, Fernando Ramos and Sarah Faidell contributed to this report.*

## NPR RADIO NEWS



*Jesus Alcazar/AFP/Getty Images*

### Supreme Court To Decide If Mexican Nationals May Sue For Border Shooting

A U.S. Border Patrol agent shot and killed an unarmed Mexican national from across the border, and the agent was not disciplined. The boy's family says a suit is their only possibility for justice.

<http://www.npr.org/sections/latin-america/>



### Why Ditching NAFTA Could Hurt America's Farmers More Than Mexico's

February 16, 2017 • Trade in food between the U.S. and Mexico has exploded over the past 15 years. President Trump is talking about restricting that trade, but when it comes to food, such moves could backfire.

<http://www.npr.org/sections/latin-america/>